The Fortress

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BARONY OF CAERTHE

Greetings, Caerthe!

TRHs Iohann and Martine - photo by Rachael Rogers

Spring is here and with it, a new reign! Outlands Coronation on May 4th A.S. VXIV saw the crowning of some fine Caerthens, Sir Iohann der Fuchs and Lady Martine de La Rochelle as the next King and Queen of these Mighty Outlands. Domenico and I are very much looking forward to this new reign and event season – both for our own Jocivus as well as the many other events within and outside the Kingdom.

During the month of April, we attended several wonderful events. The month started off with an art-filled weekend of A&S in our fair barony. Thank you to THL Crestina and the artisans who taught or participated in this fun and relaxed art experience. Domenico and I also traveled to the far lands of Citadel of the Southern Pass for Kingdom A&S and Queen's Prize. We also journeyed to less-far lands for Aarquelle Defender.

Photo by Lady Kazariyya al Wahid

Kingdom A&S was also the investiture of our new cousin, His Excellency Bernardo de Medici. Even though he is a "filthy Fiorentino", we love him anyway, and are looking forward to some late-period Italian mischief. We are also excited to announce that the new Kingdom A&S Champion is our own baronial scribe, THL Marion Forester! She did both an entry on period black pigments as well as a 15th century Italian scroll. Her research is as thorough as her work is beautiful. We are very proud of her.

Aarquelle's Defender event was also their second baronial birthday. We very much enjoyed the event and wish the barony the best in the upcoming year. This event was also a big one for the rapier community—a community that Domenico and I have been a part of for many years. Master Aegeon the Actor was elevated to the Order of Defense and Don Ian of Tadcaster was provided an offer into that same order. Additionally, two of our own long-time and valiant rapier fighters, Jehan Mor and Daciana della Slatina, were admitted into the Order of the White Scarf. Huzzah to these fierce warriors!

Please keep those award recommendations coming, both to Us and the Crown. It is due in part to the actions and good words of the populace that deserving gentles get recognized. Now pray attend, go forth and read the words of our Barony!

Ever in Service to the Dream,

Domenico e Maria, Barone e Baronessa di Caerthe

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BARONIAL OFFICERS

Arts & Sciences Minister:
THL Crestina da Brescia
art-sci@caerthe-sca.org

Aspen Pursuivant (Herald):
Lord Jarek af Wolin
herald@caerthe-sca.org

Captain of Archers:
Lord Dubhghaill Mac Gilla Easbaig
archery@caerthe-sca.org

Chatelaine (Gold Key):
Lord Morgan Kynneth
chatelaine@caerthe-sca.org

Chronicler:
Lord Khaliu Cessilus
chronicler@caerthe-sca.org

Equestrian Marshal:
Lady Marisse do Bourgogne
equestrian@caerthe-sca.org

Exchequer:
Master Logan of Logan
exchequer@caerthe-sca.org

Knight Marshal:
Baron Estavon dela Vega
marshal@caerthe-sca.org

Minister of Lists:
Arndis Knytir
lists@caerthe-sca.org

Quartermaster:
THL Angus Montgomery the Forrester
quartermaster@caerthe-sca.org

Rapier Marshal:
Don Tahir al-Razi
rapier@caerthe-sca.org

Scribe:
THL Lady Marion Forester
scribe@caerthe-sca.org

Seneschal:
THL Reynhard von Reutte
seneschal@caerthe-sca.org

Social Media Officer:
THL Pettronella Pártaszövõ
socialmedia@caerthe-sca.org

Webwright:
Lady Mizuno Kiku Ibara
web@caerthe-sca.org

Youth Minister:
Lady Anneka of Hoglund
youth@caerthe-sca.org

Baron and Baroness:
Lord Domenico Forestani & Lady Maria Castelana: excellencies@caerthe-sca.org
RH Seneschal: Lord Sigeric the Peasant · **HH Seneschal:** THL Eirikr Morrison

BARONY OF CAERTHE CHAMPIONS!

A&S Champion:	Mistress Arcadia de Medina	**Sword of Chivalry:**	Sir Wilhelm Galbrearth
Archery Warden:	THL Lord Mahowne Mac Agaloglie	**Premier Blade:**	Don Santiago Rodriguez de Cadiz
Crossbow Warder:	Master Daffyd of Emmett	**Blade of Chivalry:**	Lady Aurelia
Equestrian Champion:	Lady Marisse do Bourgogne	**Cut & Thrust:**	Mistress Gwencat
Thrown Weapons:	Lord Sigeric Flein Ox	**Warlord:**	Sir Iohann der Vuhs
Blackthorn Bard:	Lady Isabel la Biche d'Hiver		

BARONIAL PROGRESS:	EVENTS CALENDAR:
5/4 – 5/5/2019 *Coronation* Dragonspine (D&M) **5/18/2019** *Brewers Fest* Unser Hafen (D) **5/18/2019** *Clan Wars* Shire of Nahrun Kabirun (M) **5/24 - 5/27/2019** *Jocivus* Caerthe (D&M) **6/1/2019** *Kingdom Heralds & Scribes* Carthe (D&M) **6/1/2019** *Kingdom Heralds & Scribes* Carthe (D&M) **6/8 – 6/9/2019** *Dragonspine Campions* Dragonspine (D&M) **6/19 – 6/23/2019** *Northern Realms War* K. of Northshield (D&M) **6/29/2019** *Unser Hafen Champions & Investiture* Unser Hafen (D&M) **7/8 – 7/14/2019** *Battlemoor* Carthe (D&M) "We are pleased to announce that Caerthe's next martial champions and the Blackthorn Bard will be selected at Jocivus - A weekend of fun and merriment May 24-27"	All Kingdom Events may be found here! https://www.outlands.org/events **Business Meetings:** **6:30pm – 8:30pm: 1st Monday** rotating schedule: Hacienda Colorado Please check Facebook for location. https://www.facebook.com/caerthe.sca/ **Fighter Practice:** **6:00pm – 9:00pm: Thursday** Centennial Park in Englewood, Pavilion #1 4630 S Decatur St, Englewood, CO 80110 **Archery Practices:** **6:30pm - 9:30pm: Monday** No Limits Archery, 3050 E 78th Ave, Denver **6:30pm – 9:00pm: Tuesday** Rocky Mountain Specialty Gear, 4298 Kipling St B, Wheat Ridge **9:00am-12:00pm: Sunday** Scout Park, 132 E 112th Pl, Northglenn **Indoor site:** Empty Quiver Archery, 7180 W. 117th Ave., Unit C, Broomfield **Hosted Gatherings –** **Guilds & Populace Social links:** Apothecary Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-apothecary Caerthe Cavalry https://www.facebook.com/groups/CaertheCavalry Children's Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-children-guild Cooks Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-cooks-guild Jeweler's Guild https://www.facebook.com/groups/JewelersGuildofCaerthe Outlands Archery and Thrown Weapons https://tinyurl.com/outlands-archery Scribe's Guild https://tinyurl.com/caerthe-scribes-guild Scola Metallorum https://www.facebook.com/ScolaMetallorum/ Canton of Ravenhyrst https://www.facebook.com/ravenhyrst Canton of Hawks Hallow https://www.facebook.com/HawksHollowSCA

Baronial Report: The Arts & Sciences Minister

I'M SO EXCITED CAERTHE !!

We have some great scribes in our barony and we're doing some really fun things. Scribal I am very happy to be the A&S Minister for the Barony of Caerthe! We have so much A&S going on it is amazing.

Now, first off, be ready because the Canton of Ravenhyrst meets regularly the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at Colorado Fabrics Gathering Room from 12pm to 5pm. Address is 4042 S Parker Rd, Aurora, CO 80014. Basically, at the corner of Quincy and Parker Road. They have several tables and outlets for our use. On the 3rd Sunday there is a group dedicated to creating amazing largess for our Barony and Kingdom. Come join us on these Sunday afternoons to get your art on and enjoy some good times with lots of laughter and great stories.

But wait, there's more!

We also have a A&S guilds happening all over town! Brewers, Woodworkers, Fiber enthusiasts, leather fashionistas! Keep an eye out for posts on the web page as well as on Facebook for meeting dates and times.

"Cosplay Sew Night" at Colorado Fabrics. This is a great time to meet others interested in A&S as the SCA and to learn new techniques as well as teach others about the SCA. As this is a monthly event I am encourage all our garb enthusiast to attend.

There is a group of several artisans that are working on hand sewn garb mimicking the southern group of the "Skin Out Northern Addition" - this will be a completely hand sewn garment from each participant and includes artisans from many baronies as well as several Carethen artisans.

At our last populace meeting I asked what you all wanted from your A&S community. What tips and tricks could we offer each other to keep the joy alive in our barony. I want to hear all about your ideas. Catch me at an event, message me on Facebook, email me at art-sci@caerthe-sca.org.

Of course, while we hope these dates can be set in stone however; real life comes up and we have to change locations or dates. Please keep an eye out on the website, Facebook and email for any changes that come up. You can also contact me directly to be sure. I can be found at art-sci@caerthe-sca.org or on Facebook. I can't wait to see everyone there!

In Service,

THL Crestina da Brescia

art-sci@caerthe-sca.org

Baronial Report: The Scribe

THE BARONIAL SCRIBE, MARION FORESTER, DOES SEND GREETINGS!

Scribal nights continue to be lots of fun! In March we made gesso for gilding and six people participated. April's scribal night will have happened by the time this newsletter is printed, but I'm sure Lady Dilara will have shared wonderful insights on calligraphy script identification. May will bring practice painting acanthus leaves using the Gottingen Model Book, a period illumination manual. Scribal nights are usually scheduled at 6:30 on the fourth Wednesday of each month. We love seeing new faces. Learn something new or bring your own project to work on, or just come to socialize!

Scrolls for Jocivus, the barony's Memorial Day event, are going well. We already have scroll assignments for Battlemoor so let me know if you are interested in adding your art! We love non-traditional scrolls like wood, metal, and leather as well as painted illuminated scrolls. If you are interested in taking on a scroll at any time, please send me your information so that I have it on hand as scroll assignments come out. Please send the following to scribe@caerthe-sca.org to be included in the spreadsheet:

- SCA Name
- Modern Name
- Email address
- Phone number
- Whether you prefer to do calligraphy, illumination, or both
- Favorite styles
- What part of the barony you are located in
- Availability
- Preferred mode of contact (Facebook messenger, text, phone)
- Anything you may be willing to teach for scribal nights

Thank you all for your support and wonderful artwork! Remember to write award recommendations so that Their Excellencies can see who is doing really cool things in our barony!

In service,

Marion Forester

Baronial Report: The Chronicler

Summer is fast approaching. We will soon all be loading up our vehicles and heading out to our favorite events. Camping, revelry, battle, classes, etc. will all be at our finger tips. I'm so very excited!

I would like to request that you keep your eyes open while enjoying everything the season has to offer. You see, I'd like to invite you all to send in your stories to your Fortress Newsletter. Starting in the July/August 2019 newsletter, I would like to post a single "No Kidding, there I was" story for our populace's enjoyment. Not every person can attend every event. Not every person at every event can see every epic moment. What will we be telling our newcomers or friends about in the days, weeks, and years to come?

There are only a couple guidelines for these stories. First, no names may be used except for your own. Second, if you would like to include a photo, please remember to fill out the model waiver form on our website, as well as get the permission of the photographer to use the photos then send your story to me at the Chronicler's email address. Third, have some fun with this.

Warm weather and safe travels all!
In Service to Crown, Kingdom, and the Dream,

Khaliu Cessilus

Chronicler, Barony of Caerthe

Newcomers: How do we get them to stay?

Recently in Caerthe, we have had a good influx of newcomers to our Barony and the SCA as a whole. Now that we are lucky enough to have attracted this brace of awesome, enthusiastic people, how do we retain them and continue to grow our barony?

In trying to come up with ideas, I have started thinking back to when I was a newbie a *mumble mumble number of years* ago.

When you have just started this game, everything seems overwhelming. The SCA is not an easy-to-grasp hobby like baseball or quilt-making.

Most people do not dress up in handmade costumes all year long or hit their friends with sticks on the weekends. Most people don't think about researching historical recipes for glue or that they could actually make it in their basement after buying exotic material on the internet. And most people, unless you are already into cosplay or the con circuit, don't realize that something like the SCA can exist.

It seems that this is often how newcomers feel when they dip their toes into the Society for Creative Anachronism.

Looking back at my own beginnings in the SCA, I realize now that I was a much more reticent participant than many newcomers these days. It was so overwhelming for me, that I will admit, I was a little terrified. So instead of throwing myself into events like some brave newcomers of today's society, I fought rapier at practice only for an entire year before anything else. This means, one year in a Triplette fencing jacket. One year with a French grip, cup-hilt epee. One year without garb, a period name, persona, camp equipment, anything.

Finally, I was convinced to attend my local Midwinter event in Caer Galen. However, I knew I needed a medieval dress and a name. I had no idea how to make any of it or where to get materials or do research. "Period" was not yet a word in my vocabulary. Fortunately, my mom is a seamstress and had years of Halloween-costume experience. We went out and bought a bunch of pretty synthetic fabric and a McCalls pattern. Thus, the epic dress was born. While it is not the most historically accurate piece of garb I've ever owned, it was the gateway drug for many more in the years to come!

< This is me and a friend in the first two SCA dresses I ever made (circa 2000 C.E.). Photo by HE Maria

For a name, I spent about 5 minutes researching a period version of “Lana” from one resource because it sounded cool. And I wanted a tiger and swords on my device because...tigers and swords. Later, I would go to change my name and device to fit my desired persona better (and be easier to draw).

I have come a long way since then, now being the Baroness of the greatest and oldest Barony of the Outlands. So, sometimes I forget what it felt like to be a newcomer and what it took to get here.

I had a lot of help and support along the way from my non-SCA mom, but also the wide array of mentors and elders of Caer Galen and Caerthe. This was everything from helping me get to events, being understanding when I didn’t understand deference or titles or protocol, giving/lending me garb, teaching me how to make it myself, and providing me with a home and family. I would not be where I am today without all these wonderful people.

It is no secret that the SCA is not as large as it used to be. In this day and age we have to compete with other reenactment groups, LARPs, fighting clubs, and the con circuit. This is not the only club for history, costuming, and DIY enthusiasts to join. This means that we, as a populace and society, need to go the extra mile in hospitality with regards to recruitment and retention of new members.

So, I am asking all members to do one thing: Think about your first time in the SCA...your first 5 times...your first year. How overwhelmed did you feel?

Then, take those memories and apply them to the newcomers of today. The next time you are talking to a newcomer or potential recruit, be mindful that this could be their first time they are hearing about a particular concept. Even if they have been coming around for a little while, they may still be unsure where to begin in terms of garb, persona, event attendance, volunteering opportunities etc.

The Society is so vast that even a several-year-old member may still not know everything about it. So, have patience with them. Offer to help or, if you are not experienced in their interest, assist them in finding someone who is. Understand that their questions on topics you may have already explained are not because they don’t care or are lazy, but because they may not have grasped it the first time around.

Lastly, please, whenever you see someone at an event or practice, standing by themselves, looking inquisitive, overwhelmed, curious, or lost, go talk to them! Don’t think that someone else will do it instead or that they’re interested in something you know nothing about. Our first line of attack for newcomers is friendliness, hospitality and a welcoming spirit.

It is the goal of His Excellency Domenico and myself to set up all potential members with the drive to return. Provide them with enough information to entice them back, but not so much that they feel like they can't commit to it all. I know we have amazing members in our group, so let's show that same attitude to new people! We are all responsible for the growth of our barony. I know we can do it!

In Service,

Maria

Baronessa de Caerthe

MISSIVES FROM THEIR EXCELLENCIES

Her Excellency Maria has been publishing missives and post event write ups that include thanks to the event staff, photos, and much more. You can find the complete archive as well as new content at mcastelana.wordpress.com

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MEET THE BARONY

The Barony of Caerthe is part of the Kingdom of the Outlands, in the Society for Creative Anachronism. The Barony encompasses the Denver, CO metro area and includes the Canton of Hawks Hallow in the north, the Canton of Ravenhyrst in the southeast and the College of Scola Scola Metallorum at the School of Mines.

DON SANTIAGO RODRIGUEZ DE CADIZ

Don Santiago was born as Dafydd Morrison, in the Right and Noble Barony of Caerthe back when the Outlands was a mere Principality of the Kingdom of Atenveldt. Yes, that was a very long time ago—33 years for those of you keeping track. His parents have been playing longer than he has been alive. This gives him an interesting perspective of our amazing game. His experience as a child can now help shape the barony as an adult.

Of his youth he has fond memories, chasing his older brother and sisters through the woods in search of bacon. They would have grand adventures with fearsome battles. Who could forget the amazing marshmallow wars of Three Hawks past? As he grew older, he discovered his first true love in the Society: archery. Tirelessly honing his skill, he was soon able to best many of the adults, eventually becoming the youngest Forrester ranked archer in the Kingdom.

Having become a talented archer, he looked to spread his wings and conquer new endeavors. When he was old enough to test his skill with the blade, he adopted a new persona as Iago Rodriguez, running into rapier fighting head first. Literally. Many a foe stabbed him in the cabeza, teaching him many a valuable lesson along the way. Upon living to the ripe old age of 18 Iago answered a higher calling to serve his country in the Navy but not before obtaining letters of mark for his ship, La Pelusa Abroja from King Irel and Queen Rosiland. With these letters it was his intent as El Gallo del Mar to plunder the ships of the Knowne World with his trusty sword, El Espalon del Gallo and return with treasures from far and wide to enrich his beloved OUTLANDS. However, a run of bad luck struck him causing his ship to sink many, many, MANY times (it was a submarine). Having completed service to his country, he returned to the land of his birth and with reignited passion once again picked up his flashing rapier in the defense of the Outlands. Since his return, he has been recognized for this skill with a Sable Lion of Caerthe and Silver Tyne of the Outlands. It was his greatest honor to be admitted into the Order of the White Scarf of the Outlands, an accolade that he had revered in his youth. Today, he strives today to live honorably and continue to represent the order with grace and courtesy like the Dons and Doñas of old.

In Service to the Dream,

Cpt. Santiago Rodriguez de Cadiz

SIGERIC FJARSKA-BÍLDR & ARNDIS KNYTIR

Greetings from a perpetual wanderer, **Sigeric Fjarska-Bíldr**. I once lived within the Frankish empire but never found peace with Christianity and left my home and last name behind. Journeying north, I found my home amongst the Norse, where my fondness for axe and knife throwing earned me the byname Fjarska-Bíldr.

I came to find the SCA in 2007 at the College of St. Golias. Travelling to an armor-making class, I was invited by Batu Mongo to come to a fighter practice. While there, I joined up with Batu as a member of his barbarian horde, and later we created the White Raven Freehold. Our goal was to create a community focused on teaching and learning all that we could, from fiber arts to combat, and to share our knowledge with those who would receive it. Our freehold still ties us together from the far reaches of Caid to the mighty Outlands, and we continue training, teaching, and learning to hone our crafts. Upon venturing up to Ravenhyrst, I saw a canton with the same goals, and stepped up as seneschal to continue that vision: Welcome to all: teach, learn, and grow your crafts, be it fighting, volunteering, or arts & sciences.

I enjoy many hobbies in the SCA including making tents, armor, camping furniture, banners, and other projects. I am also a heavy fighter, and a cadet to Don Tahir al-Razi on the rapier field. I am the Caerthen thrown weapons champion for A.S. 53 and enjoy archery as well.

I am **Arndis Knytir**, daughter of a relocated Norwegian Viking warrior and Irish mother. I was born in a small village in southwestern Island (Iceland). Life on this edge of the world has its difficulties but I love this beautiful and rugged land. My primary occupation is the operation of my family's settlement including maintaining our flocks of sheep and hardy horses. I also support my village's trade through the production of rope and cloth sails for our ships. While I do not typically go Viking, I am ready and able to protect my home and hearth from any intruders.

I joined the SCA in 2015 while working in Hawaii. I went to my first heavy fighter practice and few events in Western Seas and have many thanks for my friends out there for introducing me to the Dream. I met my Lord Sigeric not long after and we found our home here in Caerthe. I seldom run into a craft I do not enjoy and love the myriad of different learning opportunities the society and its members present. I currently serve a deputy Arts and Sciences Minister and deputy Mistress of the List for Caerthe.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

All submissions to the Fortress must be received no later than 8:00pm on the 25th day of the month prior to publication of the newsletter. Publications will occur in January, March, May, July, September, and November of 2019.

Content submitted to the Fortress must be accompanied by the proper release forms.

For further information, questions, and concerns, please contact the baronial chronicler at chronicler@caerthe-sca.org